

DUXBURY HISTORY FILE
HISTORY ROOM

Fox with injury to hindquarters is euthanized

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DUXBURY

DUXBURY — A fox that had been roaming through town was euthanized yesterday because of an injury.

Animal Control Officer Haley-Dee Parlin said she was notified that the fox was seen near the Chandler School yesterday morning after a bus driver called police. Parlin said that by the time she arrived, the fox had moved to the corner of Bolas Road and Bianca Road.

Parlin said the fox had an infected wound on its hindquarters. She did not know the cause of the injury.

"Unfortunately, we had to put him down," Parlin said.

She said the fox was an older male and did not appear to have a mate. She said she had been monitoring the animal, which was recently seen on Lake Shore Drive, for two months.

Someone probably built a house on top of the fox's den, which was off

Birch Street, and the animal was probably looking for a new home, Parlin said.

"We have such a healthy wildlife habitat that with all the building going on, they are being moved out of their territory," she said.

Parlin said this is the breeding season for wild animals and the adults are out getting food for their young. She said she has received many calls from residents who think they have seen raccoons carrying squirrels up trees, but she said the animals are actually carrying their own young up the trees to protect them from predators.

Parlin said the caller yesterday mistook the fox for a coyote. There are at least three coyote dens in town, she said.

She said she has not seen any signs of rabid wildlife this season and has received no reports of any.